

# Nevada Hunter Information Sheet



## **MULE DEER** **Unit 194, 196**

**LOCATION:** This unit group encompasses the Carson Range along the California border from Peavine Mountain south to Highway 50 near Carson City.

**ELEVATION:** Ranges from the valleys at 5,000 feet to the tallest peaks over 10,000 feet.

**TERRAIN:** Inclines are gentle at the toe slopes, but the mountains rise rapidly and feature numerous stream-filled canyons. Many high elevation basins exist within the two units.

**VEGETATION:** The tree line in Unit 194 begins at approximately 5,300 feet. The canopy consists primarily of Jeffrey pine mixed with fir and cedar in some areas. Due to its past fire history, the canopy is less pronounced in Unit 196. Aspen stands are associated with riparian areas and broad high elevation basins. Some mahogany stands can be found in both units. Brushlands dominated by sage, bitterbrush and Mormon tea exist where the canopy is open and where timber is absent.

**LAND STATUS:** Most of Unit 194 is administered by the Carson Ranger District of the Toiyabe National Forest. There are other public lands in Unit 194, but vehicle access is denied. The Forest Service administers approximately 1/3 of Peavine Mountain in Unit 196.

**HUNTER ACCESS:** Peavine Mountain is accessed through the Dog Valley Road in Verdi, the Bull Ranch Creek Road in Mogul (both off of I-80), the Peavine road out of Lemmon Valley, and the Dog Valley Road out of Bordertown (both off of U.S. Highway 395). Unit 194 has numerous access points along its eastern flank. To enter the unit from the north, take the Boomtown exit turning south towards the NDF fire station. The gate there allows access into the Garson Bluff area.

**MAP REFERENCES:** Forest Service: Toiyabe NF-Carson District at (775) 882-2766. U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps: 1:100,000 scale - **Reno and Carson City**. There are numerous 7.5-minute scale topographic maps of the area as well. Topo maps sold at the Nevada Bureau of Mines & Geology at (775) 784-6691, Mark, Fore & Strike at (775) 322-9559 and U.S. Geological Services at (775) 358-0923. The DeLorme Nevada Atlas and Gazetteer is available at most book or sporting goods stores, or by calling them direct at 1-800-452-5931. [Link to Map Resources.](#)

**FACILITIES AND SERVICES:** The cities of Carson City and Reno are nearby and offer all facilities and services. There are no public campgrounds within either unit.

**RECOMMENDED HUNTING AREAS FOR MULE DEER:** Archers and muzzleloaders should concentrate on the riparian areas and adjacent mahogany stands along the eastern flank of the Carson Range. These areas are also productive during the general season, but the majority of the unit's deer arrive through migration from the Sierra Nevada beginning in late October. These deer concentrate on Peavine Mountain, especially in the Bull Ranch Creek drainage and the north end of the Carson Range between Hunter Creek and the California border.

**SPECIAL COMMENTS:** The majority of the deer observed during the general season on Peavine Mountain and at the very north end of the Carson Range are members of the Loyalton-Truckee Interstate Herd. These animals migrate out of summer range in the Sierra Nevada. The population is cooperatively managed with the California Department of Fish & Game. Their season precedes Nevada's. If the deer are at lower elevations during the hunt period, please be cautious about shooting around suburban housing areas. Since the units include large urban areas, many non-hunters will also be recreating. Be considerate of their experiences in the field just as you would hope that they would be considerate of yours. Some hunters have incorporated mountain bikes into their hunt strategies. Where vehicles are not permitted, there are still roads that can be used by bikers.

Recent fires in the southern portion of the unit west of Carson City burned approximately 8000 acres of deer winter range during the summer of 2004. The area has undergone restoration seeding, and NDOW strongly recommends that hunters avoid this portion of the unit. Any deer remaining in the burn area will be frequenting the backyards of those homes in west Carson City. Higher elevation areas above the burn continue to hold a few deer early in the season.